Punctuation Rap

Punctuation Rap is a game we play.

It’s fun to do, and we can learn that way.

Take the period, the period; he’s not hard to understand.

You’ll find him at the end of a statement or command.

He marks abbreviations, shortens words that are long.

Don’t forget the period; he’s small, but strong.

Question mark, question mark, what did you say?

He follows a question, that’s the only way.

Wow! Awesome! Rad! Hurray!

The exclamation point is next; he’s got something to say.

He follows something loud; he’s excited to play.

Don’t use him too much; he won’t be special that way.

The comma is next; he is used a lot.

He can separate a list of some groceries you bought.

You’ll find him in the middle of the year and the date.

Between two adjectives, or a city and state.

You can join two sentences with a “but” or an “and.”

Just remember the comma; he will give you a hand.

There is one more place that our comma has been.

He’s after a clause- that tells you when.

The dash- the dash- he’s here, then he’s gone.

If you need to make a pause, you can bring him along.

Quotation marks are nosey. They have no reservations

About hanging around in any conversation.

You must put quotes around a thing that is said,

And also a poem or a story you’ve read.

The colon (:) likes to show a list that will come.

His brother, the “semi” (;), will not be outdone.

The semicolon joins two sentences with no “and”;

If you’ve too many commas, he can take a stand.

So remember this rap; it will make you smart.

Punctuation is easy; you can learn it by heart!

Janet L. Richardson